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COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT
TOPIC <u>Fall Exercises of the 25th Tank Div in the [redacted]</u>	
EVALUATION	25X1
PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	25X1
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED <u>27 October 1954</u>
REFERENCES	
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
REMARKS <u>1</u>	25X1

1. Between 14 and 16 October 1954, a large exercise was held in the area south of Templin. Between 0630 and 0800 on 14 October, the Lychen-Templin road was blocked near Densow and the village of Densow was camouflaged by a smoke screen. Noises of tank engines and motor vehicles were heard from the direction of Annenwalde. At 1000, a column including 4 guns and trucks

Tanks and SP guns proceeded via Barsdorf, and the wheeled elements proceeded toward Collin via Storkow and the crossing 1 km north of Grunewald. In the afternoon, individual vehicles continually went in the same direction. At 1215, approximately 30 tanks and several trucks left the training area toward Vogelsang. From morning until about 1830, firing with practice ammunition was heard from the training grounds. Horch sedan [redacted] occupied by a general was seen at the training grounds.

2. Between 0845 and 0915 on 15 October, heavy reports, presumably of tank guns and, subsequently, noises of tank engines were heard from the Vietmannsdorf-Bebersee-Grossvater area. At noon, sedans [redacted] with officers was engaged in a briefing were seen at the road fork south of Storkow. At 1230, approximately 30 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] truck [redacted] left Vogel [redacted] toward Vietmannsdorf. At 1330, reports of artillery pieces were heard from the area east of Grunewald and noise of tank engines was heard from the direction of Gross

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Doelln until 1430. Some time later, the noise of the tanks was heard from an area west of Grunewald. At 1630, approximately 40 JS-3 tanks and T-34/85 tanks came from the direction of Deutschboden and went to Moritzhof. From there, the tanks fired toward southwest. The training grounds was quiet after about 1800.

3. On 16 October, a column including train No C 4-50-01, approximately 25 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] approximately 20 SU-249 SP guns [redacted] approximately 25 JS-3 tanks and approximately 30 motor vehicles [redacted] was seen on the Templin-Lychen road. The same column was entrained at the Templin railroad station at 1400. Approximately 200 officers were seen in the waiting room of the railroad station. At 1700, a train which went toward Templin was seen at the Lychen railroad station. The train carried 8 JS-3 tanks [redacted] 13 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] and 3 boxcarloads of personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. The unit had come from the direction of Tangersdorf. No exercises or other activities were observed in the area south of Hammelspring throughout the day. 1
 

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4. No changes were observed in the section of the Weisse Stadt settlement (4683) in Oranienburg, which was occupied by the Soviet Army. Fatigue details of the unit from Vogelsang were still engaged in reconditioning work. A lieutenant of Unit Shcherback stated that the unit was to return to the Weisse Stadt from Vogelsang on 15 or 16 October. 2
 

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1. Comment. These observations supplement previous information on the exercise of the 25th Tank Div. [redacted] The exercise presumably started in the Lychen area on 14 October and developed in a southeasterly direction as far as the area south of Templin where the unit came in contact with the enemy after it had turned toward the east on 15 October. Weapons, as well as motor vehicle and tank [redacted] the majority of which belonged to the 25th Tank Div, confirm the assumption that this was the final fall of this division. The assumption is also supported by the presence there of a general who drove a sedan of the Hq Fourth Gds Mech Army. The movements and loadings on 16 October, in connection with the fact that neither exercises nor other activities were observed at the training grounds on that day, indicate that the 25th Tank Div was to return to the posts upon completion of the exercise. This assumption is confirmed by the statement of the lieutenant in Oranienburg. [redacted]
 

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2. Comment. Unit Shcherback is believed to be the 53d Mtrcl Bn of the 25th Tank Div which was stationed in the Weisse Stadt settlement prior to the summer training period. The date mentioned checks with available information on the fall exercise of the 25th Tank Div. [redacted]
 

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